

## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



2280

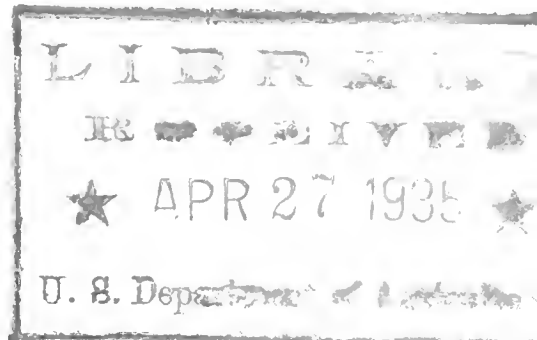


This Van Fleet chestnut tree, a chinching hybrid, is bearing 20 nuts or more. The small size of the tree is shown by the man who holds the sheet. It is the usual thing for these trees to bear at this small size and to keep it up. It is a hybrid of the blight resistant Chinese chestnut and the American chinquapin—the one American species that resists the blight.

*Have Fun, Nuts and Beauty  
from Your Shade Trees*



FALL 1934  
and  
SPRING 1935



Stabler black walnut has thinnest shell of all black walnuts. Some of the kernels come out in one solid piece, not in two halves. Delicious flavor. Carton of nuts, approximately 1 lb., sent postpaid anywhere in U. S. for 25c.

Attention is called to smallest size of grafted chestnut trees. Stock of these is less short than of the others, and they are sturdy transplanted trees that should grow off nicely. Seedling trees do well as pollinators and also produce interesting nuts.

# 40

**Years of experiment with  
nut trees, suitable for cold  
climates, enables me to  
recommend to you . . .**

---

**Blight Resistant Chestnut Trees**  
*Early Bearers*

---



---

**Grafted Black Walnuts**  
*Dignified and Useful Trees*  
*A Good Crop*

---



---

**Grafted Hybrid Hickories**  
*Surprising and Beautiful Trees*

---



---

**Hardy Grafted Northern Pecans**  
*Majestic and Fruitful Shade*

---



---

**Persimmons**  
*Ripening before Frost—Delicious*

---

J. RUSSELL SMITH · ROUND HILL · VIRGINIA

**T**HIRTY-NINE YEARS AGO I planted my first nut trees in Loudoun County, Virginia, in the Blue Ridge Country, in a climate colder than that of Philadelphia. Those first trees soon died, but I now know the reason why. You can profit by my experience.

I am having great fun with nut trees, and gathering many varieties of nuts each autumn.

Have just had an interesting year in the nursery and experiment grounds.

On the Blue Ridge Mountain, not far from the historic town of Harpers Ferry, at elevations of 800 to 1300 feet, I ripened in this one season:

1. Six varieties of Northern Pecans
2. Seven varieties of Hybrid Hickories
3. Two varieties of Grafted Shagbarks
4. Five varieties of Grafted Black Walnuts
5. About thirty varieties of blight resistant chestnuts

The most surprising thing was the number of grafted pecans and hickories that ripened nuts in the nursery row—many 8–10 ft. Busseron Pecans and some Buttericks and several other varieties.

I have been experimenting with *northern* Pecans for more than twenty years. They are as hardy as hickories and bear delicious nuts. They are also beautiful trees and will make your place a landmark. They are good wherever dent corn grows.

My first chestnut orchard died with the blight but I have hundreds of blight resistant Chinese chestnut trees coming and they are early bearers.

The grafted American Black Walnuts are so promising that I have a field of them.

The hybrid Hickories are the real astonishment. Some of them bear earlier than apples. Some of them grow as fast as maples, two to three feet in a year, and are more beautiful trees than maples. One of these hybrids, the McCallister, bears larger nuts than any Southern Pecan.

As a result of my forty years of experiments I have a few proved varieties for sale.

### **Blight Resistant Chinese Chestnuts Grafted Trees and Seedlings**

These trees are grown from large, sweet chestnuts of flavor resembling the native American chestnut. They have been exposed to blight in China for an unknown period. Therefore they have developed high resistance to the blight. They will grow 2 or 3 feet or even more per year if well fertilized. You should have at least two trees for cross fertilization.

Trees will grow to the size of an apple tree.

Chinese Chestnut described more fully in booklet, which will be sent on request.

### **Hybrid Chestnuts**

The most astonishing nut tree known to me is the *chinchin*, a hybrid between the Chinese chestnut and the American chinquapin. They bear in the nursery row at two and three feet in height. They bear the year after you set them out. The nuts are nearly or quite an inch in diameter, a beautiful rich mahogany color and of good quality, especially when roasted or boiled.

You should have these and a grafted Chinese to pollinate each other.

The Chinese will bear as soon as the apple bears or sooner, but the *chinchin* is in a class alone for precocity.

These trees have glossy leaves of a distinctly ornamental character.

**Don't forget that these are grafted trees, known, true and precocious.**

### **Grafted Black Walnuts**

The propagated varieties have been selected from among many thousands because

they come out of the shell easily. This is the result of wide search for unusual trees of the native species.

We have a limited supply of grafted black walnut trees of the Thomas and Stabler varieties and a very few Ohio. These are native American black walnuts. The Thomas has the following characteristics:

(1) It grows about twice as fast as an apple tree.

(2) It bears as soon as most apple trees. I have had large-size Thomas walnut trees to bear a few nuts the year after setting out. This, however, is unusual.

(3) Most of the kernels come out of the shells in whole quarters, about ten pounds of kernels to the bushel.

(4) The kernels are of unusually fine flavor.

(5) The tree has proved hardy and fruitful in southern Ontario, at Ithaca, New York, southern Vermont, in Iowa and in west central Texas. A grower at Clyde, Texas, reports eight consecutive crops. May be expected to bear as often as wild walnut trees bear, and oftener if well fertilized. The black walnut loves food.

The Stabler is not so rapid a grower, but most of the kernels come out in complete halves, and some of the nuts of this remarkable tree yield the kernel in one piece. The tree is also a very beautiful ornamental with a distinct tropical appearance. Put one in your yard and you will have an interesting feature. Its nuts will be different from anything your neighbors have.

The Ohio is a very vigorous tree, and a sort of compromise between the Thomas and Stabler.

## Grafted Hybrid Hickories

I can now offer some genuine hybrids.

**Fairbanks**, a native of Iowa. This tree is the beginner's joy. It bears early and regularly. It is a beautiful, rapid-growing tree. I have one top worked on a pignut in a rocky pasture and it has not missed bearing in the last 11 years.

**Stratford**. Also a native of Iowa promises to be as prolific as Fairbanks and even more precocious. One tree bore last year in nursery the year after it was grafted and they often bear in the woods the second or third year after grafting on to wild trees. Kernels come out in complete halves.

## Pecan Shellbark Hybrids—Hiccans

**Burlington** comes from a huge and beautiful tree near Burlington, Iowa. A rapid grower, beautiful foliage, worth planting for shade alone. Large thin-shelled nuts. Has ripened nuts at Ithaca, New York, and is hardy at Minneapolis on pecan roots; that is the kind we sell. The flavor of these nuts is very moreish. Don't miss getting one of these.

**McCallister**. The original tree grew in southern Indiana. The nuts of this variety are regularly more than two inches long, much larger than any Southern pecan. Can crack them in your hand. Like many hybrids it is a very rapid grower. Has beautiful glossy foliage and is a charming shade tree. I cannot recommend it as a heavy bearer although there is a record of a bushel of nuts from a ten year old tree—*well fed*. Most people with room will want a tree that is so unique as this king of all the known hickory species or varieties.

## Hardy Grafted Northern Pecans

George Washington planted pecans, which he called "Illinois nuts" at Mt. Vernon. His trees are still going strong, but I can sell you *much* better ones than he had. Weeks have been spent searching the woods of the Ohio Valley for the best varieties. As a result we now have fine flavored, thin-shelled pecans from Indiana and Illinois. Hardy in corn country and ripen where dent corn ripens. They have produced good crops at Lewisburg, Pa. *You can crack them in your hands. Meats in complete halves.* Flavor as good as or better than that of the best Southern pecans. Beautiful, towering, gigantic trees. Illustrated booklet about "Pecans in the North" on request.

Various nurseries are selling Southern varieties in the North at a low price. Most of them are good only for shade if north of the Cotton Belt. The trees may be hardy but the nuts will not ripen.

Also, many nurseries are selling *seedling* pecan trees. They are all right for shade,

but the nuts will probably be few, small and very late in coming. Some will be bitter and the meat will be held tight by convolutions of the shell.

Advise purchase of at least one Busseron and one Butterick, as they are known to fertilize each other. The Kentucky is known as the best pollinator of all the many varieties that we have tested. It is also a producer of good nuts. If well fed these northern pecans will grow  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 feet per year after getting established. Try one of each. I have had nearly a hundred Busseron pecan trees, 8 to 10 feet high, bearing nuts in the nursery rows.

## Persimmon

Every yard needs one or more persimmon trees. I cannot understand why this de-



Clusters of pecans on a nursery tree.

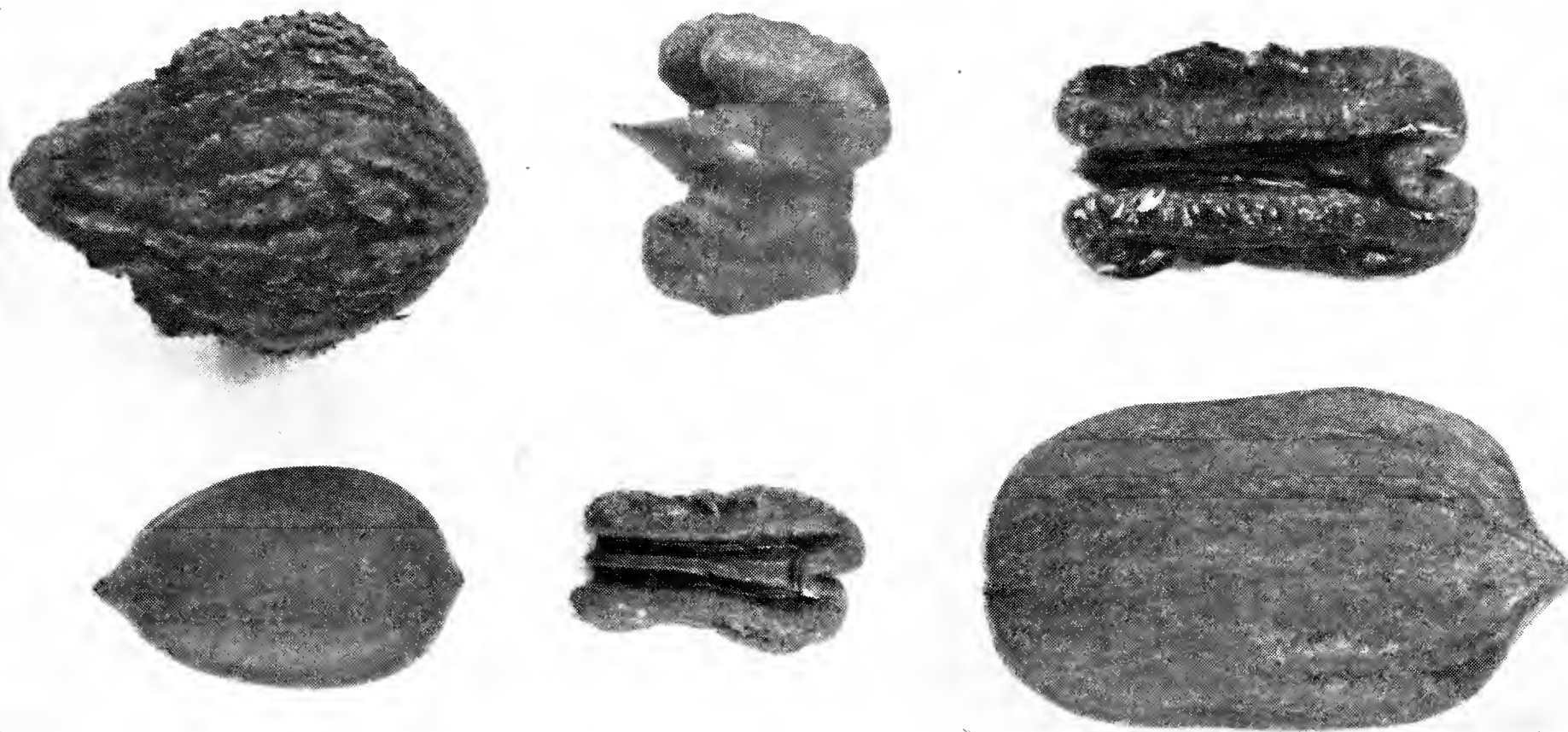
licious native fruit has been neglected so long.

Early Golden, the one variety I have to offer, ripens September 25th, and some years they keep on ripening for two months. My trees are bearing their third consecutive heavy crop. If you taste one you want a saucerful. The tree is pleasing in appearance, with cylindrical form.

## Care of Trees

Nut trees have great root systems. It is certainly true that young hickories and pecans have *more root than top*. If you had *all* the roots of such a tree you would need a well in which to plant it. Transplanting such trees is an act of violence at best. The tops should be reduced to match the reduction of roots. Therefore I trim all trees unless buyer especially requests otherwise. I also wax the tops, which gives transplanting a higher percentage of success.

We beg that the trees be protected by 3 or 4 foot radius of straw, strawy manure or paper *mulch for the first two years* and *watered* if drought comes. It is really scandalous the way some people will pay good money for trees and then kill the trees by neglect. I want your trees to *grow*.



Stabler black walnut and kernel. Butterick pecan and kernel. Large long nut and kernel, McCallister. These are only 8/9 actual size

**PRICES OF TREES—(F. O. B. Railway Express office, Round Hill, Virginia)**  
**One dozen sold for the price of ten trees**

	1-2 ft. Each	2-3 ft. Each	3-4 ft. Each	4-5 ft. Each	5-6 ft. Each	6-7 ft. Each	7-8 ft. Each	8-10 ft. Each	10-12 ft. Each
<b>Hybrid Hickory</b> (McCallister, Burlington, Stratford, Fairbanks).....		\$2.00	\$2.50	\$2.75	\$3.00	\$3.50	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$6.00
<b>Black Walnut</b> (Thomas, Stabler, Ohio)...	\$1.50	1.75	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.50	4.00	4.50	
<b>Northern Pecans</b> (Busseron, Butterick, Kentucky).....		2.00	2.50	2.75	3.00	3.50	4.00	5.00	
<b>Chinese Chestnut, <i>Seedlings</i></b>				1.00	1.25				
<b>Chinese Chestnut, <i>Grafted</i></b> Zimmerman.....	1.50	2.00	3.00						
<b>Chinchin Hybrid, <i>Grafted</i></b> Van Fleet.....	1.50	2.00	3.00						
<b>Persimmons</b> (Early Golden).....	1.50	1.75	2.00						

**One dozen sold for the price of ten trees**

Address and make checks payable to  
**SUNNY RIDGE NURSERY, ROUND HILL, VA.**

**Graft Your Own Nut Trees**

It is easy, but it requires a special technique. Send 25c in stamps for illustrated booklet telling just how to do it. Address: *Walnut Lane Press, Swarthmore, Pa.*

**Tree Crops—A Book You Want.**

If you love trees or land, and own any land you will be interested, pleased and surprised at the things you will learn from this book. Tells about nut culture and other trees that you had not thought of as crop trees. If you are not pleased send the book back in good order within ten days and get your money back. Price \$4.00.

Walnut Lane Press, Swarthmore, Pa.